

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /102 W

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O R 011930Z NOV 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6851

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4235

FOR IO, AF, AND EUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, FR

SUBJECT: UNGA: RESOLUTION ON MAYOTTE

SUMMARY. GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEGAN DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 125, QUESTION OF MAYOTTE, OCTOBER 31. VOTE EXPECTED ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, MISSION PAINFULLY RECOMMENDS ABSTENTION. END SUMMARY.

1. FIRST DAY OF UNGA DEBATE ON MAYOTTE WAS UNEVENTFUL. FRENCH REP AND COMOROS FOREIGN MINISTER HAD LOVE FEAST FROM PODIUM, AND DEPARTED ASSEMBLY TOGETHER AT END OF DAY'S DEBATE. SENEGAL, GABON, SRI LANKA, TUNISIA, MADAGASCAR AND LIBYA ALSO SPOKE. WITH EXCEPTION OF LIBYA, RHETORIC WAS AT A MINIMUM. DEBATE EXPECTED TO CONCLUDE NOVEMBER 1ST OR 2ND WITH VOTE LIKELY ON 2ND.

2. DRAFT RESOLUTION COSPONSORED BY 41 AFRICAN STATES (SEE PARA 6 FOR TEXT) IS PICTURE OF MODERATION. FRENCH PRESENTLY PLAN ON NOT PARTICIPATING IN VOTE AND ASKING FOR ABSTENTIONS FROM WEO'S. GOF ASSUMES RESOLUTION'S MODERATION
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WILL WIN MORE POSITIVE VOTES THIS YEAR THAN LAST, BUT STILL HOPES TO RETAIN AT LEAST 15 OF LAST YEAR'S 30 ABSTENTIONS. EC-9 WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF DENMARK TO ABSTAIN ALONG WITH SPAIN, PORTUGAL AND GREECE. CANADA LEANING TOWARDS ABSTENTION. NORDICS, JAPAN AND TURKEY EXPECTED TO VOTE YES. BOTH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND REQUESTING INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTE YES.

3. FRENCH VERY CLEARLY DESIRE US ABSTENTION AND ASSUME THAT IS OUR INTENTION. THE PRINCIPAL ARGUMENT FOR A U.S. ABSTENTION IS TO PRESERVE THE SOLIDARITY OF THE WESTERN FIVE WHICH HAS BEEN VERY USEFUL TO US ON AFRICAN QUESTIONS THIS YEAR. MOST RECENTLY, FRENCH HAVE BEEN MORE THAN IRKED WITH OUR IN EFFECT FORCING THEM TO ACCEPT THE PRINCIPLE OF A MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO IN SOUTH AFRICA. IN FRENCH EYES, U.S. YES VOTE ON MAYOTTE RESOLUTION COULD BE VIEWED AS ADDING INSULT TO INJURY.

4. ON OTHER HAND, MISSION MOST RELUCTANT TO ABSTAIN ON AFRICAN GROUP RESOLUTION WHICH IS EMBODIMENT OF PRAGMATISM AND MODERATION. USG HAS PREACHED FOR YEARS ON NECESSITY FOR MODERATION IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. MISSION IS NOW FACED WITH EXACTLY THAT. AFRICANS WILL SEE U.S. ABSTENTION ON MODERATE RESOLUTION (AFTER OUR ABSTENTION ON LAST YEAR'S TOUGH RESOLUTION) AS PROOF THAT MODERATION DOES NOT PAY.

5. MISSION BY NO MEANS SUGGESTS THAT U.S. AFRICAN POLICY SHOULD BE HOSTAGE TO FRENCH SENSITIVITIES. USG SHOULD CONTINUE TO FORCE THE PACE, AS IN THE RECENT SOUTH AFRICA CASE, EVEN IF THERE IS SOME KICKING AND SCREAMING FROM PARIS (AND LONDON AND BONN). BUT THE MAYOTTE CASE, AT THIS POINT IN TIME, IS PROBABLY JUST NOT IMPORTANT ENOUGH

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FOR US TO TAKE ANOTHER DIVISIVE STAND. MISSION PAINFULLY RECOMMENDS ABSTENTION ON THE MAYOTTE RESOLUTION.

6. TEXT OF AFRICAN RESOLUTION ON MAYOTTE FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

QUESTION OF THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE

ALGERIA, ANGOLA, BENIN, BOTSWANA, BURUNDI, CAPE VERDE, CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE, CHAD, COMOROS, CONGO, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, GABON, GAMBIA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, IVORY COAST, KENYA, LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, MALI, MAURITANIA, MAURITIUS, MOROCCO, MOZAMBIQUE, NIGER, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SENEGAL, SOMALIA, SRI LANKA, SUDAN, TUNISIA, UGANDA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, UPPER VOLTA, ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA: DRAFT RESOLUTION

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING ITS RESOLUTION 1514 (XV) OF 14 DECEMBER 1960, CONTAINING THE DECLARATION OF THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL

COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES, AND ITS RESOLUTION 2621 (XXV) OF 12 OCTOBER 1970, CONTAINING THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION,

RECALLING RESOLUTION 3161 (XXVIII) OF 14 DECEMBER 1973, IN WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFIRMED THE UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE COMOROS AND THROUGH WHICH THE REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE AFFIRMED THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE TO RESPOND FAITHFULLY TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE COMORIAN PEOPLE,

RECALLING THAT THOSE ASPIRATIONS WERE CLEARLY EXPRESSED BY THE OVERWHELMING VOTE OF 22 DECEMBER 1974 IN FAVOUR OF INDEPENDENCE IN POLITICAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3291 (XXIX) OF 13
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DECEMBER 1974,

CONSIDERING THAT IN ITS COMMUNICATION OF 17 OCTOBER 1975 (OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THIRTIETH SESSION, ANNEXES, AGENDA ITEM 22, DOCUMENT A/10302.) THE SECURITY COUNCIL RECOMMENDED THE ADMISSION OF THE COMOROS TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THAT ON THAT OCCASION FRANCE RAISED NO OBJECTION,

RECALLING THAT BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3385 (XXX) OF 12 NOVEMBER 1975 THE COMOROS WAS ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS AS AN ENTITY COMPOSED OF THE ISLANDS OF ANJOUAN, GRANDE-COMORE, MAYOTTE AND MOHELI, AS EMPHASIZED IN RESOLUTION 3291 (XXIX) AND OTHER RESOLUTIONS,

RECALLING THE PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION 31/4 OF 21 9:59?34 1976, MAINLY ITS PARAGRAPH 6, IN WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALLED UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMOROS,

BEARING IN MIND THE EFFORTS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF ITS COMMITTEE OF SEVEN ON THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE, WHICH MET AT MORONI ON 5 AND 6 SEPTEMBER 1977 AND RECOMMENDED THAT INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE EFFORTS SHOULD BE EXERTED IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT A JUST AND URGENT SOLUTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE TO THIS PROBLEM WHICH PREOCCUPIES THE WHOLE OF AFRICA, (SEE A/32/305, ANNEX II.)

11. CALLS UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMOROS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE TO WORK OUT A JUST AND EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT FOR THE PROBLEM OF THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE WHICH RESPECTS THE POLITICAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE COMOROS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THIS ISSUE;
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2. MANDATES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO TAKE, IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMOROS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE, ANY INITIATIVE IN FAVOUR OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS;

3. FURTHER REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY WITH A VIEW TO OBTAINING ANY ASSISTANCE WHICH MAY HELP HIM TO DISCHARGE HIS MISSION;

4. DECIDES TO KEEP THE ITEM ENTITLED "QUESTION OF THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE" ON ITS AGENDA AND REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRESENT RESOLUTIO.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 01-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Errors: N/A
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TAGS: PORG, FR, UNGA
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